REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the recitations of claim 4, which has been canceled.

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Actions dated October 20, 2004 and December 20, 2004, the Examiner indicated that Applicants' Responses filed on October 4, 2004 and December 2, 2004 do not place the application in condition for allowance and do not overcome the §103 rejection over JP '411.

In response, it is respectfully submitted that JP '411 does not teach or suggest the process of the present invention for the reasons set forth in the previous Responses, which are incorporated herein by reference.

In addition, in the process of the present invention, fluorine gas and/or ammonia gas is fed in portions. The advantages of feeding the fluorine gas and/or ammonia gas in portions is disclosed, for example, at page 6, lines 8-21 and page 8, lines 3-13:

> In order to prevent the local temperature from the rising due to heat of reaction, the starting materials F_2 and NH_3 are preferably fed in portions when the concentrations thereof are high from the standpoint of preventing a rise in the local temperature, though the starting material gases each may be fed in one lot when the concentration thereof is low. In the case of feeding F_2 gas and NH_3 gas as the starting materials in portions, for example, a method of passing F_2 gas and NH_3 gas through a first inlet for feeding starting material gas and passing NH_3 gas through a second inlet for feeding gas may be used. By feeding the gases in portions as such, the reaction temperature can be more effectively prevented from rising locally.
>
> * * *
>
> Therefore, the important point of the present invention is to prevent the explosion of NH_3 gas and F_2 gas. The present inventors have studied on the range of explosive conditions for NH_3 gas and F_2 gas, as a result, the lower limit of the range of conditions for explosion of NH_3 is found to be 6 mol% or less and from this, the safe range of the reaction in the process of the present invention can be established. Furthermore, by

feeding F_2 gas and/or NH_3 gas in portions from two or more gas inlets into the reactor, the gas concentration in the reactor can be controlled to be in a safe range.

JP '411 does not teach or suggest feeding gases in portions, or any advantages achieved by feeding gases in portions.

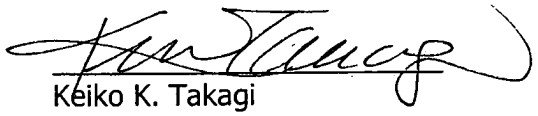
Accordingly, JP '411 does not teach or suggest the process of the present invention, and withdrawal of the §103 rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection, and allowance of claims 1-3 and 7-10 are respectfully requested.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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